



**MHSC**

**Mine Health and Safety Council**

Established in terms of Section 41(1) of the Mine Health and Safety Act, 1996 (Act 29 of 1996)  
Western Woods Office Park, 145 Western Service Road, B7 Maple Place, Woodmead  
Tel. No. (011) 656 1797 | Fax: (011) 656 1796

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**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

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**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) FROM SERVICE PROVIDERS WITH THE CAPABILITY AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE SAFE LOCATION AND RECOVERY OF THE TRAPPED CONTAINER AT LILY GOLD MINE.**

<b>Bid Number</b>	<b>RFI 01</b>
<b>Advertisement Date</b>	<b>29 July 2025</b>
<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>20 August 2025</b>
<b>Closing Time</b>	<b>11h00 am</b>
<b>Non-Compulsory Briefing Session</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Bid Validity Period:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

<b>Bid Document Delivery Address:</b>	<p><b>The Tender box located at:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>B7 Maple Place, 145 Western Service Road, Woodmead, Sandton, 2080</b></li></ul> <p><b>Bidders should ensure that bids are delivered timeously to the correct delivery address. The tender box is generally open weekdays at the below delivery address.</b></p>
<b>Direct Enquiries in writing to:</b>	
<b>Supply Chain Management</b>	<a href="mailto:tenders@mhsc.org.za">tenders@mhsc.org.za</a>



# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL


The Mine Health and Safety Council (MHSC) is a national public entity (Schedule 3A) established in terms of the Mine Health and Safety Act (MHSA), No 29. of 1996, as amended. The MHSC is mandated to advise the Minister of Mineral and Petroleum Resources on mine health and safety (MHS) issues in the mining industry, relating to the development and implementation of the MHSC annual MHS research programme, reviewing and development of MHS legislation and dissemination (knowledge and technology transfer) of MHSC research outcomes to improve MHS conditions in the South African Mining Industry (SAMI).

On the 05<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 at approximately 08:10 AM, a fatal event occurred at Lily Gold Mine, located near Barberton in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa. The incident involved the failure of a crown pillar situated between Level 3 and Level 4 of the underground workings. This collapse created a sinkhole into which part of the surface infrastructure, including the lamp room housed in a shipping container, was engulfed.

At the time of the incident, three employees were inside the lamp room container and were subsequently trapped and remain unaccounted for. A total of seventy-six (76) other employees working underground at the time were successfully rescued through a ventilation shaft.

The incident raised serious concerns about ground stability and geotechnical risks, particularly in relation to historic mining voids beneath the active mine area. Subsequent recovery attempts were abandoned due to unstable ground conditions and significant safety risks. As of today, the container has not been located or retrieved, and the site remains unrehabilitated.

The Lily Mine tragedy is regarded as one of the most high-profile unresolved mining incidents in post-apartheid South Africa with profound human, social, economic and technical implications. Nearly a decade later, the loss remains deeply felt, particularly by the families of the missing workers, who continue to seek closure through the recovery of the remains of their loved ones. The tragedy underscores the critical



importance of advancing safe and innovative approaches to mine recovery under complex geotechnical conditions.

## **2. PART A: THE CONTRACT**

### **2.1 CONTEXT OF THIS PROCUREMENT**

The MHSC is seeking information from service providers with the capability and technologies for the safe location and recovery of the trapped container at Lily Gold Mine.

### **2.2 CONTRACT PERIOD**

Bidders must advise on the approximate period this project will take.

### **2.3 DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS / SCOPE OF WORK**

This RFI aims to solicit non-binding proposals from service providers with the capability and technologies for the safe location and recovery of the trapped container at Lily Gold Mine. The MHSC is seeking information that includes, but is not limited to:

- Technologies to accurately locate the position of the trapped container within the collapsed area.
- Engineering and geotechnical methodologies to safely access the sinkhole and surrounding underground voids, taking into account unstable ground conditions and the presence of historical mining excavations.
- Stabilisation techniques (temporary or permanent) to prevent secondary collapses or hazards during the recovery operation.
- Container recovery approaches.
- Risk management protocols.
- Details of previous related work.
- Detailed project timelines, resource requirements, and estimated costs.

Service providers may respond with capabilities to either locate the container, recover it, or both. Collaboration is encouraged should a single service provider not be able to both locate and recover the container

### **3. PART B: THE PRICING**

#### **PRICING INSTRUCTIONS**

Bidders are not required to submit a pricing proposal for this RFI as the intention is not to award or appoint a bidder, however bidders are required to advise on the estimated costs to execute the whole project as outlined on the scope of work above.

### **4. PART C: BID SELECTION PROCESS**

#### **4.1 BID PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION**

4.1.1 Number of bid documents: **1 X Original and 1 X copy** of the original for contract signing (**Hard copies**) – **Bidders may submit electronically in a form of a USB.**


#### **4.2 BID CLOSING**

4.2.1 There shall be no public opening by the MHSC of the bids received.

4.2.4 All bids shall close on the specified date and time as stipulated in the bid document.

#### **4.3 ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE (RETURNABLE DOCUMENTS)**

No returnable documents are expected / required for this RFI. Only bidders' disclosure form (SBD4) will be completed by the bidders.



#### **4.4 MANDATORY COMPLIANCE – CENTRAL SUPPLIER DATABASE**

CSD report is not required for this RFI, however bidders are required to be registered on the CSD to be able to conduct business with Government.

#### **4.5 MANDATORY COMPLIANCE – TAX STATUS VERIFICATION**

Bidders are not compelled to submit their tax compliance status with their bid in the form of a Tax certificate.

#### **4.6 PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION ACT, 4 of 2013 (POPIA)**

MHSC adheres to the Protection of Personal Information Act, 4 of 2013 (POPIA) requirements regarding personal information which came into effect 1 July 2021. As MHSC, we are committed to protecting your privacy and ensuring that personal information collected is used properly, lawfully, and transparently.

#### **4.7 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**

The service provider acknowledges that he is fully aware of the provisions of the Mine Health and Safety Act 29 of 1996. MHSC promotes a culture of occupational health and safety in the mining industry. The service provider acknowledges that he is fully aware of the provisions of the OHS Act 85 of 1993 and that he is an employer in his own right with duties and responsibilities as prescribed in the Act.

## **5. PART D: BID EVALUATION PROCESS**

There will be no evaluation taking place for this RFI.

## 5.1 REQUIRED EXPERIENCE

Bidders must advise MHSC on the resources required for this project as outlined on the scope of work above.

## 6 CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTION TO THE BIDDER

The bidders' responses will mainly be used for information purposes.

### 6.1 IMPORTANT NOTICE TO BIDDERS

***Bidders are to be aware of scammers who pose as MHSC employees selling bid documents or offering monetary gratuity in exchange for information or awarding of bids. MHSC is in no way selling the bid document, all documents shall be found on the MHSC website and National Treasury eTender Portal and awarded bids are notified through the website and MHSC shall never ask any bidder for monetary gratuity in exchange for information or manipulating outcome of bids.***

### 6.2 CORRESPONDENCES AND QUERIES

Should it be necessary for a bidder to obtain clarity on any matter arising from or referred to in this RFB document, please refer queries, in writing, to the contact person(s) listed above in SBD 1 or below. Under no circumstances may any other employee within MHSC be approached for any information.

**Any queries regarding the bidding procedure may be directed to:**

**Department:** Supply Chain Management

**E-mail address:** [tenders@mhsc.org.za](mailto:tenders@mhsc.org.za)

**Due date for queries:** 14 August 2025



### **6.3 STANDARD CONDITIONS OF THE BID**

- i. MHSC may request a presentation.
- v. No part of the contents of this document may be used, copied, disclosed, or conveyed in whole or in part to any party in any manner whatsoever other than for preparing a proposal in response to this bid, without prior written permission from the MHSC.
- vi. Any bidder who has reasons to believe that the bid specification is based on a specific brand must inform the MHSC before bid closing date.
- vii. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that its response reaches MHSC on or before the closing date and time of the bid.
- viii. if the MHSC amends this bid, the amendment will be publicized as the case maybe on the platforms which the bid was published. No oral amendments by any person will be considered or acknowledged.

## BIDDER'S DISCLOSURE (SBD 4)

### 1. PURPOSE OF THE FORM

Any person (natural or juristic) may make an offer or offers in terms of this invitation to bid. In line with the principles of transparency, accountability, impartiality, and ethics as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and further expressed in various pieces of legislation, it is required for the bidder to make this declaration in respect of the details required hereunder.

Where a person/s are listed in the Register for Tender Defaulters and / or the List of Restricted Suppliers, that person will automatically be disqualified from the bid process.

### 2. Bidder's declaration

2.1 Is the bidder, or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest<sup>1</sup> in the enterprise, employed by the state? **YES/NO**

2.1.1 If so, furnish particulars of the names, individual identity numbers, and, if applicable, state employee numbers of sole proprietor/ directors / trustees / shareholders / members/ partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise, in table below.

Full Name	Identity Number	Name of institution	State

<sup>1</sup> the power, by one person or a group of persons holding the majority of the equity of an enterprise, alternatively, the person/s having the deciding vote or power to influence or to direct the course and decisions of the enterprise.


2.2 Do you, or any person connected with the bidder, have a relationship with any person who is employed by the procuring institution? **YES/NO**

2.2.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....  
 .....

2.3 Does the bidder or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise have any interest in any other related enterprise whether or not they are bidding for this contract? **YES/NO**

2.3.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....  
 .....

**3 DECLARATION**

I, the undersigned, (name)..... in submitting the accompanying bid, do hereby make the following statements that I certify to be true and complete in every respect:

- 3.1 I have read and I understand the contents of this disclosure;
- 3.2 I understand that the accompanying bid will be disqualified if this disclosure is found not to be true and complete in every respect;
- 3.3 The bidder has arrived at the accompanying bid independently from, and without consultation, communication, agreement or arrangement with any competitor. However, communication between partners in a joint venture or consortium<sup>2</sup> will not be construed as collusive bidding.
- 3.4 In addition, there have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements with any competitor regarding the quality, quantity, specifications, prices, including methods, factors or

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<sup>2</sup> Joint venture or Consortium means an association of persons for the purpose of combining their expertise, property, capital, efforts, skill and knowledge in an activity for the execution of a contract.



formulas used to calculate prices, market allocation, the intention or decision to submit or not to submit the bid, bidding with the intention not to win the bid and conditions or delivery particulars of the products or services to which this bid invitation relates.

- 3.4 The terms of the accompanying bid have not been, and will not be, disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, to any competitor, prior to the date and time of the official bid opening or of the awarding of the contract.
- 3.5 There have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements made by the bidder with any official of the procuring institution in relation to this procurement process prior to and during the bidding process except to provide clarification on the bid submitted where so required by the institution; and the bidder was not involved in the drafting of the specifications or terms of reference for this bid.
- 3.6 I am aware that, in addition and without prejudice to any other remedy provided to combat any restrictive practices related to bids and contracts, bids that are suspicious will be reported to the Competition Commission for investigation and possible imposition of administrative penalties in terms of section 59 of the Competition Act No 89 of 1998 and or may be reported to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) for criminal investigation and or may be restricted from conducting business with the public sector for a period not exceeding ten (10) years in terms of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act No 12 of 2004 or any other applicable legislation.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION FURNISHED IN PARAGRAPHS 1, 2 and 3 ABOVE IS CORRECT.

I ACCEPT THAT THE STATE MAY REJECT THE BID OR ACT AGAINST ME IN TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 6 OF PFMA SCM INSTRUCTION 03 OF 2021/22 ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING ABUSE IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SHOULD THIS DECLARATION PROVE TO BE FALSE.

..... Signature	..... Date
..... Position	..... Name of bidder

